16

alan moore

j.h. williams iii

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Promethea

oct

AMERICA'S BEST COMICS

eisner award winner

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Mick 2001 THANKS PETER MAX

HELL:
MMMWU-UHRRRR...
WELL, THIS IS NICE.
EHHHH-HRRRRR!
NATURALLY, I AGREE, GREAT ASMODAY.
I RATHER THINK, EARL RONOVE, THAT HIS APPALLING MAJESTY'S REMARKS WERE MEANT IRONICALLY.
WHY, WE HAVE A TERRESTRIAL CITY FALLEN TO OUR JURISDICTION!
MWUHH!
YOU DON'T MIND MY BREATH, DO YOU, MY LOVELY? MMWUHH!
OF COURSE! OF COURSE I WAS BEING IRONIC, YOU CRETIN'S DUNG, YOU SUPPURATING... HHHRRAGHHH!
SOMETHING IS DESCENDING ON US. I CAN FEEL IT!
ASMODAY'S RIGHT. LATELY, I'VE CAUGHT THE STENCH OF MYRRH, A SNIFF OF WOMAN...
IT'S HERRRRR! THE ONE WITH THE CADUCEUS, AT THE HOSPITAL!
OR, NOBLE PURSON, WITH RESPECT, MAYHAP ONE OF HER FRIGHTFUL SISTERS?
BUT WHY SHOULD SHE, OR THEY, ATTACK US ONLY NOW?
DO YOU KNOW, HMMM DOES MY LITTLE VIPER KNOW? MWUHH...
BE SILENT, ASTAROTH! WE MUST LOOK NOW TO OUR DEFENSES!
I SHALL HAVE SIX AND SIXTY LEGIONS MARSHALLED WITH ALL SPEED.
YEAH, THOUGH THEIR CLAMOR SHAKE THE TREE ITSELF, SO SHALL IT BE...
MISTER MAYOR?

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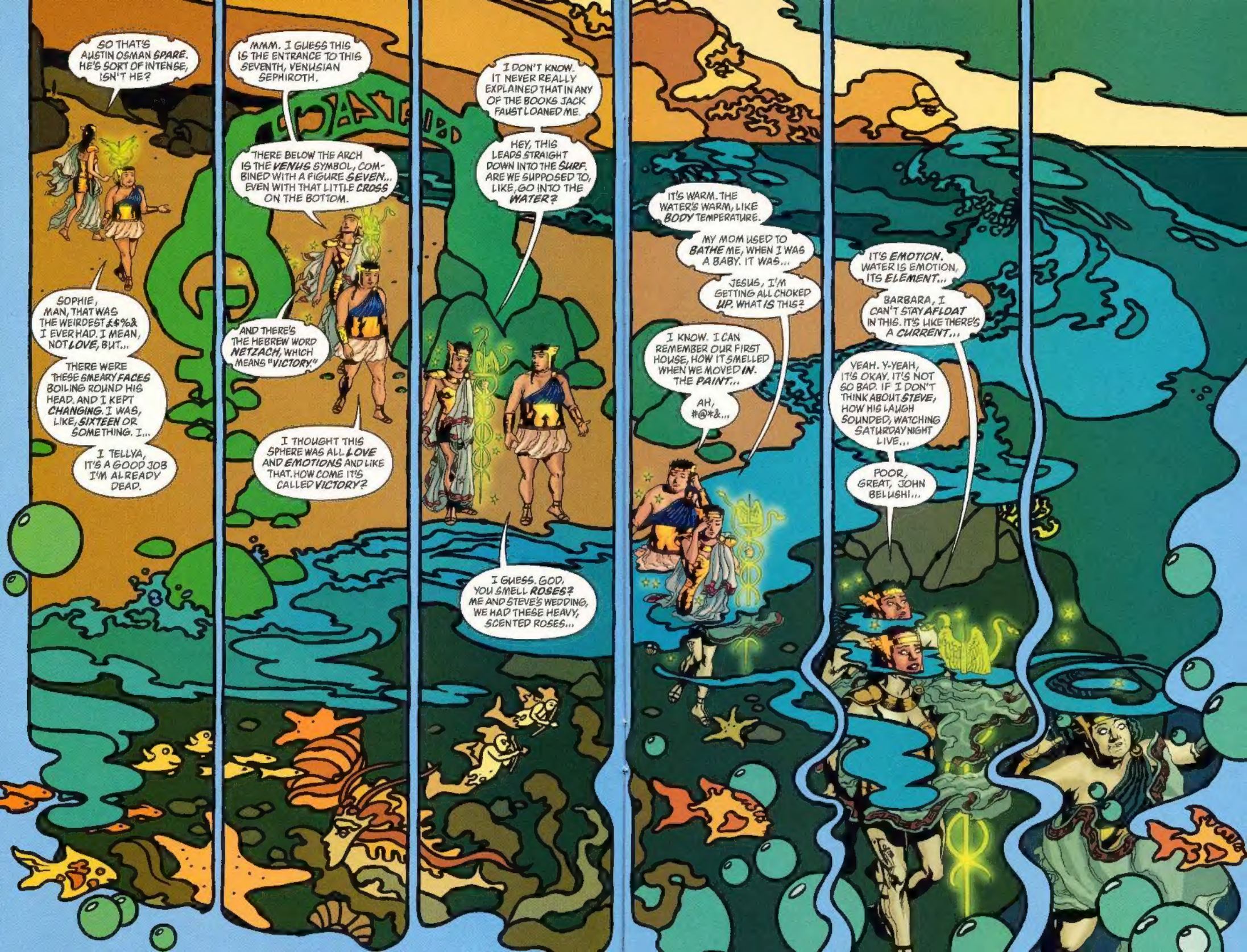
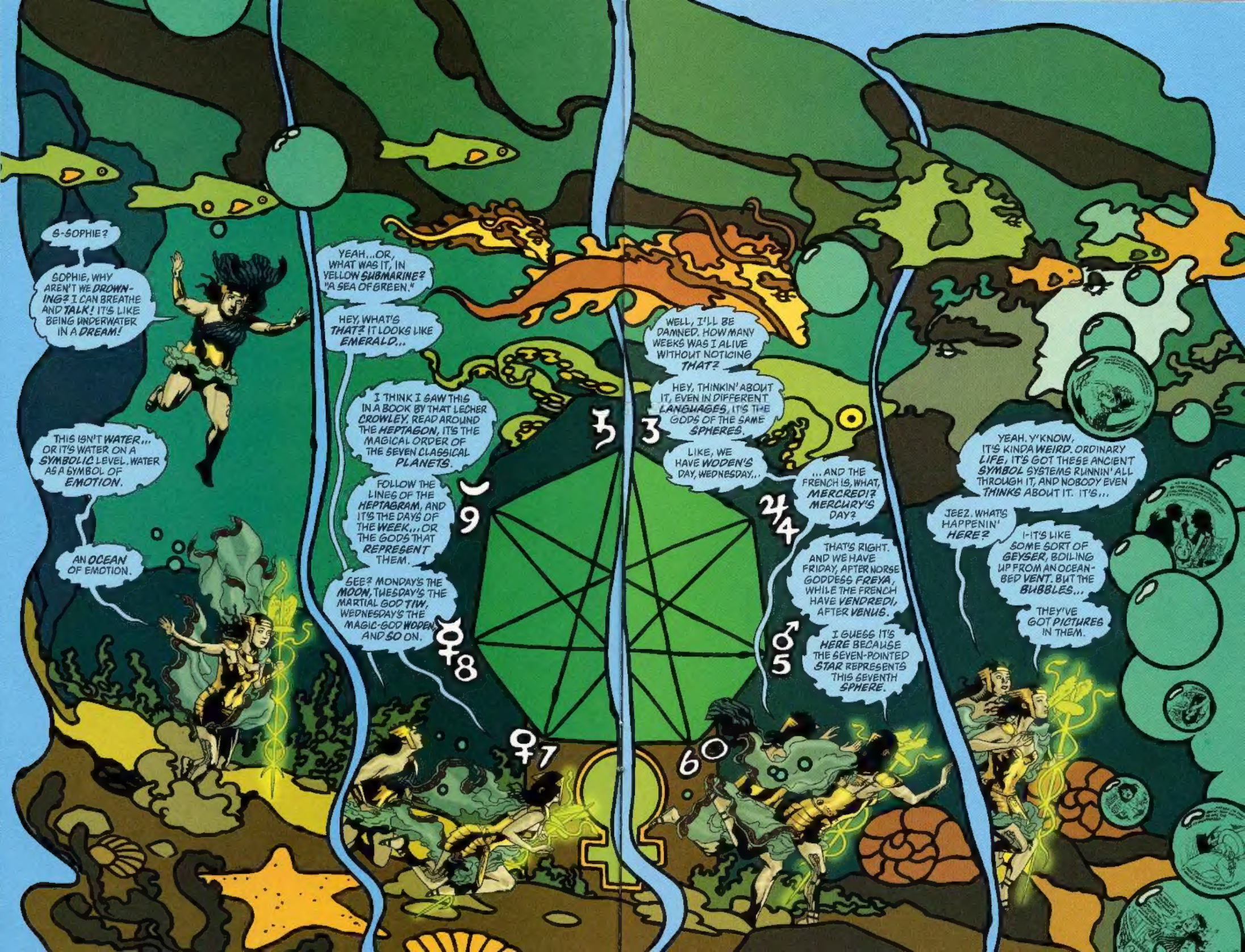
...FOR THUS CROAKS BAEL, AND CROAKS FOR PANDEMONIUM ITSELF...
MR. MAYOR? S-SONNY?
LOOK, WE REALLY HAVE TO DISCUSS THESE PLANNING PROPOSALS...
YEAH. SEE, MAYOR BASKERVILLE, THE NEW CITY HALL. WE NEED CLARIFICATION.
I--I MEAN, WHY, EXACTLY, DOES IT HAVE TO BE A FIVE-POINTED STAR?
WHAT?
CITY HALL, SONNY. YOU SAID YOU WANTED A SOUTH-FACING FIVE-POINTED STAR.
YOU SEE, ARCHITECTURALLY, WE THINK THERE COULD BE PROBLEMS WITH...
YOU THINK? YOU THINK?
AND WHO GIVES THE BLOODY SNOTS OF AN INFANT FLAYED ALIVE AND ROAST IN HELL WHAT YOU THINK, YOU TRICKLING EXCRESCENCE?
OH &$%&...
YOU ARE NOT HERE TO THINK, YOU LEPROUS LITTLE SCAB!
THE ONLY PURPOSE OF YOUR MILDEW-LIKE EXISTENCE IS TO DO MY BIDDING! DO YOU UNDERSTAND??
PLEASE, SONNY, NOT AGAIN...
HE'S A PEACH, AIN'T HE?
YEAH. TELLYA, I WORKED WITH DALEY IN CHICAGO. HE WASN'T A PATCH ON THIS GUY.
AAA! I UNDERSTAND! I UNDERSTAND!
I'LL KICK YOUR GUTS OUT! I'LL KICK YOUR GUTS OUT, YOU SON OF A TINKER'S BITCH!
HE'S GOOD. THE MUTTERINGS CREEPY, THOUGH.

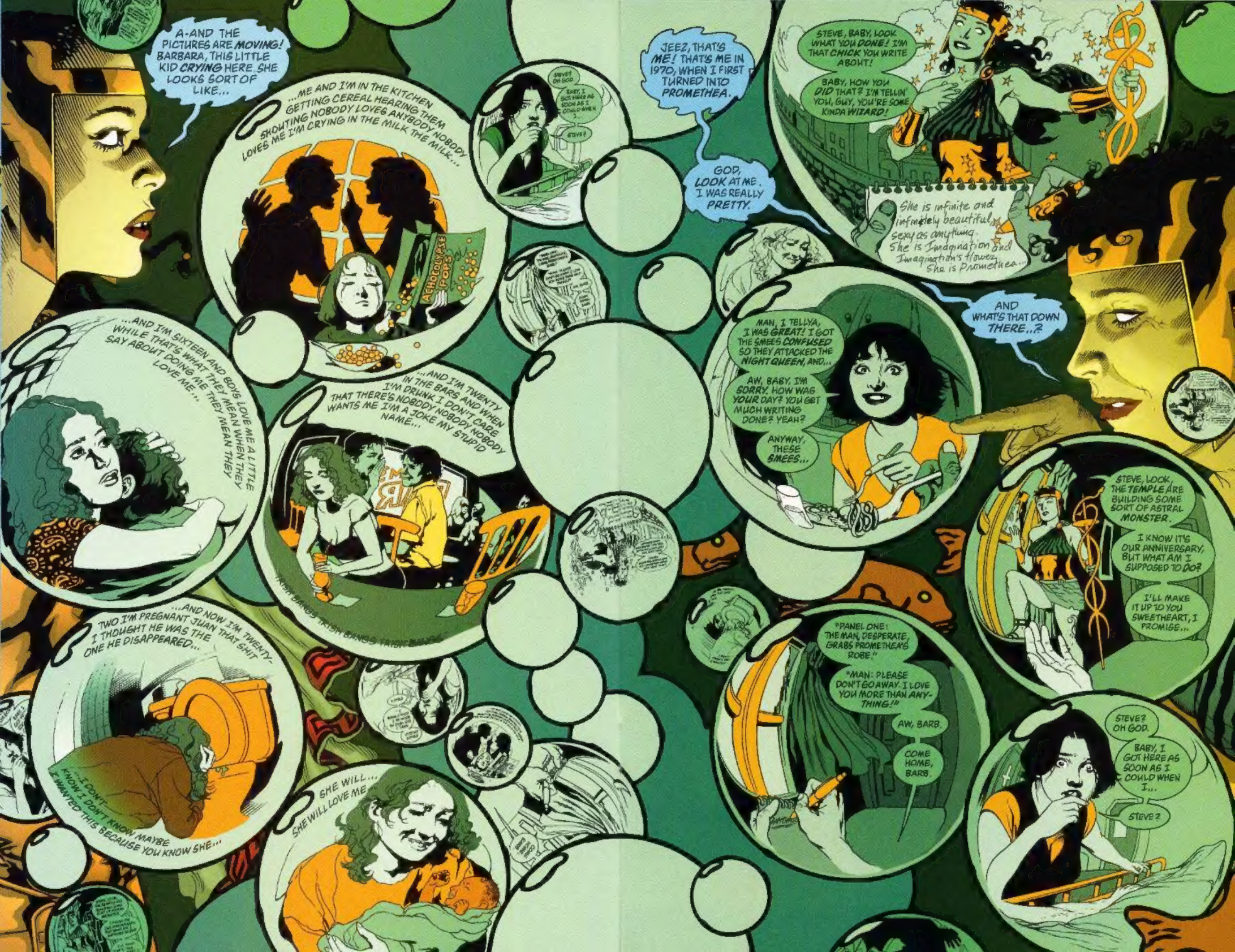
YEAH. THE MUTTERING'S CREEPY. PERSONALLY, I LIKE THE RAVING AND BELLOWING BETTER. IT'S MORE NORMAL.
YOU PUSTULE! SEPTIC ENTRAILS OF A BUG!!
SONNY, LEAVE HIM! HE'S UNCONSCIOUS!
YEAH. RAVING AND BELLOWING'S GOOD. PLUS, I GOTTA SAY, THE VOTERS LOVE HIM.
OH, YOU MEAN THAT POLL? YEAH, I SAW THAT. THEY SAY HE'S REALLY LIVENED UP THE CITY.
RRRRAAGHH! CLEAN THIS FOOL AWAY AND BUILD ME MY PENTACLE!
YESSIR, SONNY, MR. MAYOR. W-WE'RE RIGHT ON IT!
YEAH. HE'S DONE THAT, ALL RIGHT. HE'S LIVENED UP THE CITY...
WHY CAN'T EVERYBODY JUST, Y'KNOW, GET ALONG?
NEW ISSUES EVERY MONTH AT YOUR NEWSDEALER...
Weeping Gorilla COMIX
from APEX
AAAAAAA
AAAAAAUNNNK!
WHUNT!
OH, BALLS. ROGER'S DOWN...
YEAH, WELL, WHY DON'T YOU TRY DOIN' SOMETHIN' ABOUT IT, BOB?
YOU'RE THE FRIGGIN' LEADER! AND YOU ALWAYS LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME AND ROGER!
STAN, CALM DOWN...
OH DEAR! NOT FEELING QUITE SO SWELL, DARLINGS?

FRANKLY, MY DEARS, YOU WOULDN'T BE IN SUCH A MESS IF YOU WEREN'T ALSO IN MY WAY.
IF I WERE YOU, I'D GET OUT OF IT.
YEAH, RIGHT. AND LET YOU WHACK THE MAYOR!
THIS AIN'T THE ONE THAT STOPPED THE ELASTAGEL. THIS ONE'S DIFFERENT. ARE YOU GETTING ANYTHING, KENNETH?
NOTHING THAT MAKES SENSE...
I'M AT AN EASEL. 1927, LANDSCAPE. ALIEN LANDSCAPE. WOMAN. WOMAN ARTIST.
SHE'S BISEXUAL. MILD ADDICTION TO COCAINE. HER NAME'S...
THAK
=NNUK=
SHE'S NUTS! STAN, HIT HER WITH SOMETHING!
YOU GOT TERRIFIC GAMEPLAY! AND WHACKING THE MAYOR'S KIND OF PROFOUND.
SO, IS THAT RIGHT, YOU WERE BISEXUAL?
WHAT CAN I SAY, DARLING? IT WAS THE 'TWENTIES. WE'D JUST GOT THROUGH A WAR.
WE WERE ALL FEELING TERRIBLY FRISKY.
£$%& YOU, BOB! YOU HIT HER!
L-LISTEN, I DON'T UNDERSTAND! HOW COME YOU HAVE TO KILL THE MAYOR WHEN THE OTHER PROMETHEA DIDN'T?
OH, WE'VE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT TEMPERAMENTS, DARLING...
YOU SEE, I'M MUCH MORE IN TOUCH WITH MY EMOTIONS...
...AND SHE STILL HAS A WAY TO GO.

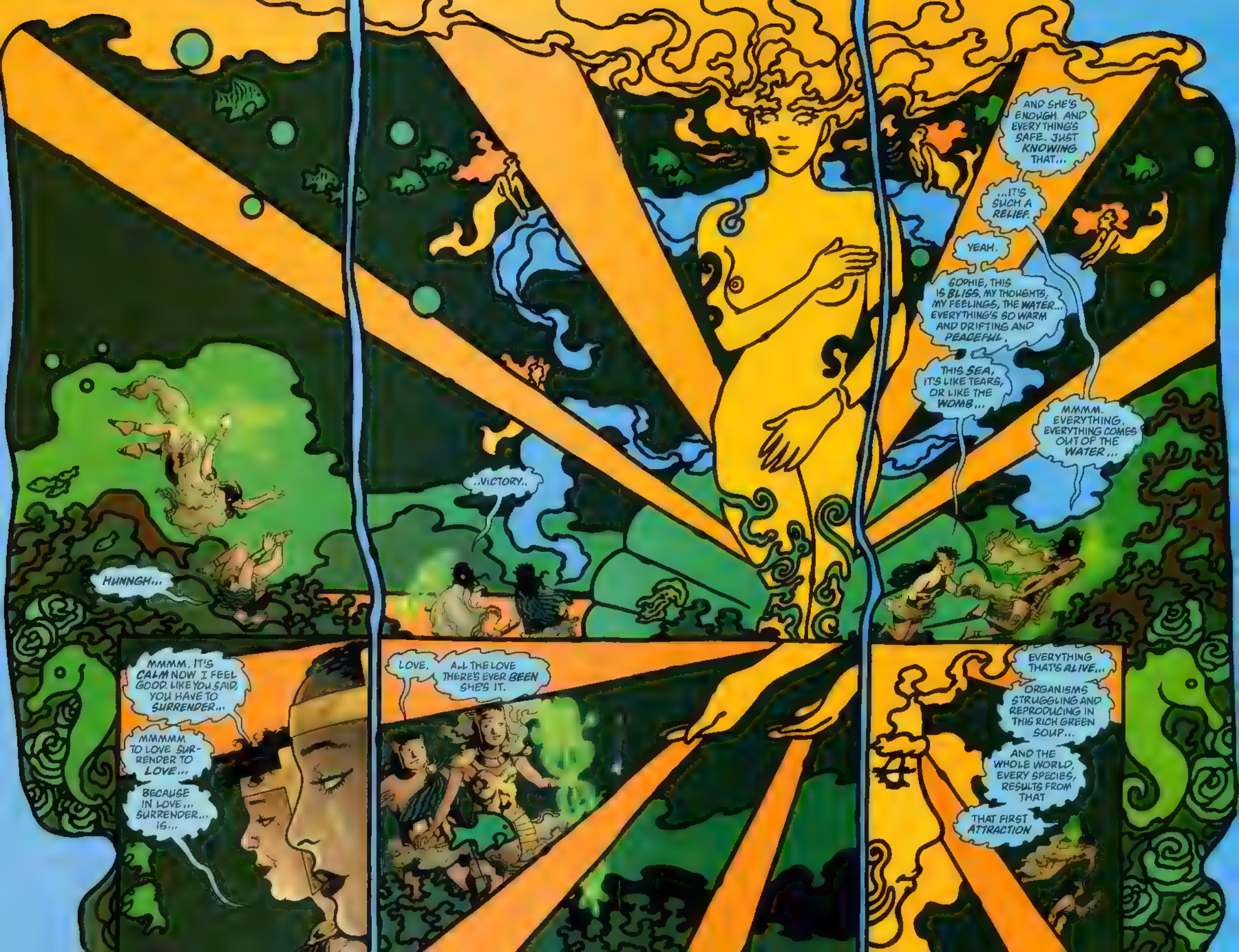
PROMETHEA: LOVE AND THE LAW
HI.
alan moore writer
j.h. williams iii penciller
mick gray inker
jeromy cox colors
todd klein letters
kristy quinn/neal pozner assistant editors
scott dunbier editor
promethea created by moore & williams
HI. YOU TWO OKAY?
UH... YEAH.
YEAH, AUSTIN WAS JUST EXPLAININ' STUFF TO ME, ABOUT THOTH AND HIS APE. THIS COMMUNICATION THEORY STUFF ABOUT SIGNAL AND NOISE.
AND, UH, WE HAD SEX.
I MEAN, I DON'T WANT YOU TO THINK I'M UNFAITHFUL TO STEVE. IT'S JUST...
BARBARA, IT'S FINE. I UNDERSTAND. DIFFERENT THINGS ARE IMPORTANT HERE.
ARE THEY BUGGER.
YOU'RE NOT COMING WITH US?
IT'S JUST THAT HERE YOU'RE NEAR ENOUGH TO YOUR EMOTIONS TO FEEL WHAT'S REALLY IMPORTANT.
GOOD LUCK IN NETZACH, BARBARA. HOPE YOU FIND YOUR OLD MAN.
NO. THIS BIT OF ME BELONGS IN HOD.
YOU'LL SEE ME LATER, DOWN THE ROAD, BUT I WON'T KNOW YOU. I'LL BE A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PERSON THERE.
TAKE CARE, GIRLS. DON'T GET OUT OF YOUR DEPTH.

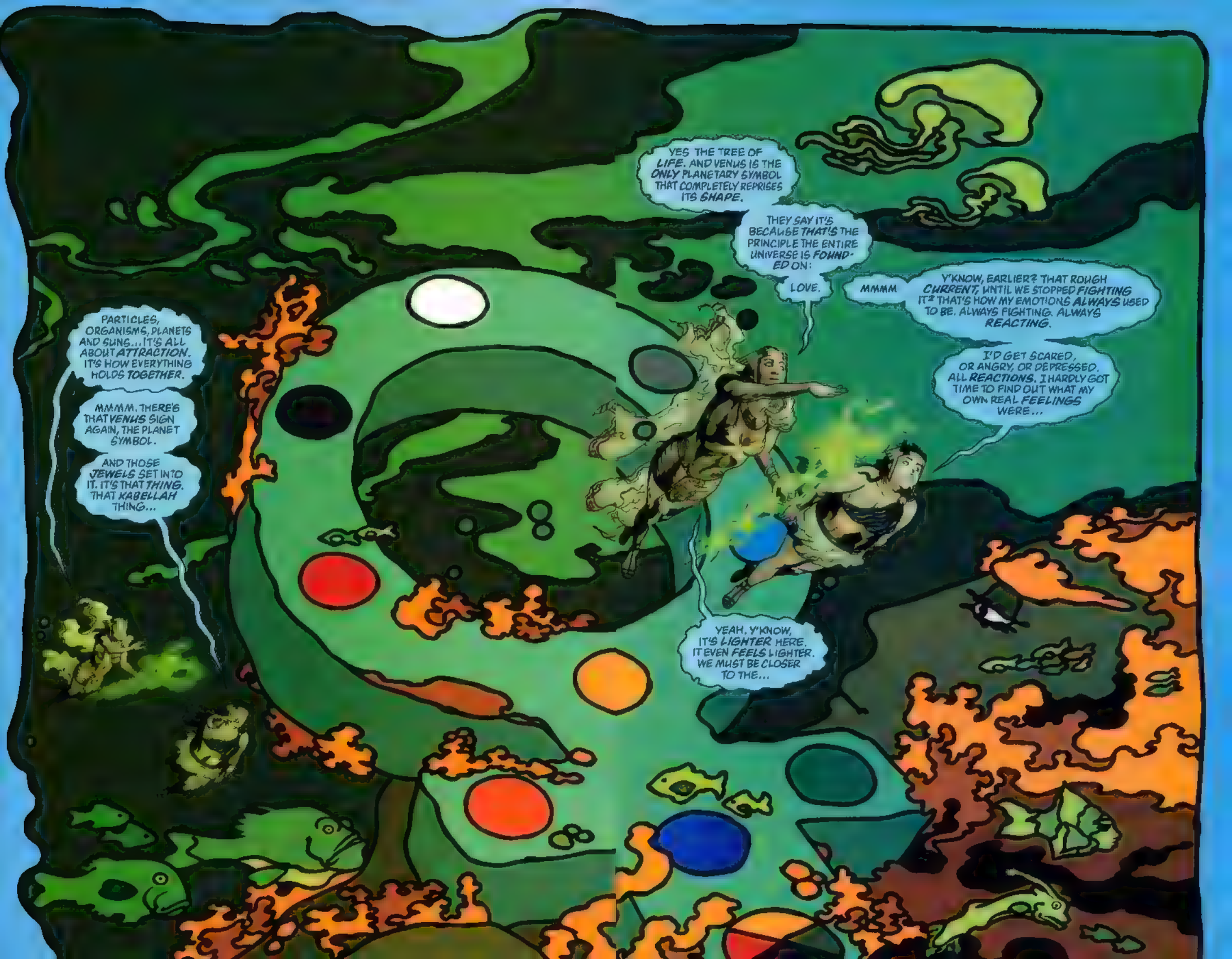

SO THAT'S AUSTIN OSMAN SPARE. HE'S SORT OF INTENSE, ISN'T HE?
SOPHIE, MAN, THAT WAS THE WEIRDEST &$%& I EVER HAD. I MEAN, NOT LOVE, BUT...
THERE WERE THESE SMEARY FACES BOILING ROUND HIS HEAD. AND I KEPT CHANGING. I WAS, LIKE, SIXTEEN OR SOMETHING. I...
I TELLYA, IT'S A GOOD JOB I'M ALREADY DEAD.
MMM. I GUESS THIS IS THE ENTRANCE TO THIS SEVENTH, VENUSIAN SEPHIROTH.
THERE BELOW THE ARCH IS THE VENUS SYMBOL, COMBINED WITH A FIGURE SEVEN... EVEN WITH THAT LITTLE CROSS ON THE BOTTOM.
AND THERE'S THE HEBREW WORD NETZACH, WHICH MEANS "VICTORY"
I THOUGHT THIS SPHERE WAS ALL LOVE AND EMOTIONS AND LIKE THAT. HOW COME IT'S CALLED VICTORY?
I DON'T KNOW. IT NEVER REALLY EXPLAINED THAT IN ANY OF THE BOOKS JACK FAUST LOANED ME.
HEY, THIS LEADS STRAIGHT DOWN INTO THE SURF. ARE WE SUPPOSED TO, LIKE, GO INTO THE WATER?
I GUESS. GOD, YOU SMELL ROSES? ME AND STEVE'S WEDDING, WE HAD THESE HEAVY, SCENTED ROSES...
IT'S WARM. THE WATER'S WARM, LIKE BODY TEMPERATURE.
MY MOM USED TO BATHE ME, WHEN I WAS A BABY. IT WAS...
JESUS, I'M GETTING ALL CHOKED UP. WHAT IS THIS?
I KNOW. I CAN REMEMBER OUR FIRST HOUSE, HOW IT SMELLED WHEN WE MOVED IN. THE PAINT...
AH, #@*&...
IT'S EMOTION. WATER IS EMOTION, ITS ELEMENT...
BARBARA, I CAN'T STAY AFLOAT IN THIS. IT'S LIKE THERE'S A CURRENT...
YEAH. Y-YEAH, IT'S OKAY. IT'S NOT SO BAD. IF I DON'T THINK ABOUT STEVE, HOW HIS LAUGH SOUNDED, WATCHING SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE...
POOR, GREAT, JOHN BELUSHI...


S-SOPHIE?
SOPHIE, WHY AREN'T WE DROWNING? I CAN BREATHE AND TALK! IT'S LIKE BEING UNDERWATER IN A DREAM!
THIS ISN'T WATER... OR IT'S WATER ON A SYMBOLIC LEVEL. WATER AS A SYMBOL OF EMOTION.
AN OCEAN OF EMOTION.
YEAH...OR, WHAT WAS IT, IN YELLOW SUBMARINE? "A SEA OF GREEN."
HEY, WHAT'S THAT? IT LOOKS LIKE EMERALD...
I THINK I SAW THIS IN A BOOK BY THAT LECHER CROWLEY. READ AROUND THE HEPTAGON, IT'S THE MAGICAL ORDER OF THE SEVEN CLASSICAL PLANETS.
FOLLOW THE LINES OF THE HEPTAGRAM, AND IT'S THE DAYS OF THE WEEK... OR THE GODS THAT REPRESENT THEM.
SEE? MONDAY'S THE MOON, TUESDAY'S THE MARTIAL GOD TIW, WEDNESDAY'S THE MAGIC-GOD WODEN AND SO ON.
WELL, I'LL BE DAMNED. HOW MANY WEEKS WAS I ALIVE WITHOUT NOTICING THAT?
HEY, THINKIN' ABOUT IT, EVEN IN DIFFERENT LANGUAGES, IT'S THE GODS OF THE SAME SPHERES.
LIKE, WE HAVE WODEN'S DAY, WEDNESDAY...
... AND THE FRENCH IS, WHAT, MERCREDI? MERCURY'S DAY?
THAT'S RIGHT. AND WE HAVE FRIDAY, AFTER NORSE GODDESS FREYA, WHILE THE FRENCH HAVE VENDREDI, AFTER VENUS.
I GUESS IT'S HERE BECAUSE THE SEVEN-POINTED STAR REPRESENTS THIS SEVENTH SPHERE.
YEAH. Y'KNOW, IT'S KINDA WEIRD. ORDINARY LIFE, IT'S GOT THESE ANCIENT SYMBOL SYSTEMS RUNNIN' ALL THROUGH IT, AND NOBODY EVEN THINKS ABOUT IT. IT'S...
JEEZ. WHAT'S HAPPENIN' HERE?
I-IT'S LIKE SOME SORT OF GEYSER, BOILING UP FROM AN OCEAN-BED VENT. BUT THE BUBBLES...
THEY'VE GOT PICTURES IN THEM.
☽ 9
☿ 8
♀ 7
3
3
♃ 4
♂ 5
6


A-AND THE PICTURES ARE MOVING! BARBARA, THIS LITTLE KID CRYING HERE SHE LOOKS SORT OF LIKE...
...ME AND I'M IN THE KITCHEN GETTING CEREAL HEARING THEM SHOUTING NOBODY LOVES ANYBODY NOBODY LOVES ME I'M CRYING IN THE MILK THE MILK...
AFTERSCHOOL FAT POPS
STEVE?
OH GOD
BABY, I GOT HERE AS SOON AS I COULD WHEN I...
STEVE?
...AND I'M SIXTEEN AND BOYS LOVE ME A LITTLE WHILE THAT'S WHAT THEY MEAN WHEN THEY SAY ABOUT DOING ME THEY MEAN THEY LOVE ME...
...AND I'M TWENTY IN THE BARS AND WHEN I'M DRUNK I DON'T CARE THAT THERE'S NOBODY NOBODY NOBODY WANTS ME I'M A JOKE MY STUPID NAME...
KISH BANGS TRISH BANGS TRISH BANGS
...AND NOW I'M TWENTY-TWO I'M PREGNANT JUAN THAT SHIT I THOUGHT HE WAS THE ONE HE DISAPPEARED...
...I DON'T KNOW I DON'T KNOW MAYBE I WANTED THIS BECAUSE YOU KNOW SHE...
SHE WILL... SHE WILL LOVE ME
JEEZ, THAT'S ME! THAT'S ME IN 1970, WHEN I FIRST TURNED INTO PROMETHEA.
GOD, LOOK AT ME. I WAS REALLY PRETTY.
STEVE, BABY, LOOK WHAT YOU DONE! I'M THAT CHICK YOU WRITE ABOUT!
BABY, HOW YOU DID THAT? I'M TELLIN' YOU, GUY, YOU'RE SOME KINDA WIZARD!
She is infinite and infinitely beautiful, sexy as anything. She is Imagination and Imagination's flower. She is Prometheа.
MAN, I TELLYA, I WAS GREAT! I GOT THE SMEES CONFUSED SO THEY ATTACKED THE NIGHT QUEEN, AND...
AW, BABY, I'M SORRY. HOW WAS YOUR DAY? YOU GET MUCH WRITING DONE? YEAH?
ANYWAY, THESE SMEES...
AND WHAT'S THAT DOWN THERE...?
"PANEL ONE: THE MAN, DESPERATE, GRABS PROMETHEA'S ROBE."
"MAN: PLEASE DON'T GO AWAY. I LOVE YOU MORE THAN ANY-THING!"
AW, BARB.
COME HOME, BARB.
STEVE, LOOK, THE TEMPLE ARE BUILDING SOME SORT OF ASTRAL MONSTER.
I KNOW IT'S OUR ANNIVERSARY, BUT WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?
I'LL MAKE IT UP TO YOU SWEETHEART, I PROMISE...
STEVE? OH GOD.
BABY, I GOT HERE AS SOON AS I COULD WHEN I...
STEVE?

I...I WASN'T THERE. WHEN HE WANTED ME, I WASN'T THERE. I...
THIS IS TOO MUCH. SOPHIE, I CAN'T TAKE THIS. THIS SURGE OF EMOTION, IT'S KNOCKING ME OVER. IT'S...
OH GOD. OH GOD, MOM, I'M SORRY. I'M SO SORRY.
I DIDN'T KNOW. I DIDN'T KNOW HOW BAD YOU JUST WANTED MY...
...LOVE...
AAA! STEVE, BABY...
BROKEN
EMPTY
LIAR
ALONE
MY FAULT
PAIN
THIS CURRENT... WAVES OF FEELING... I WANT IT TO STOP! I DON'T WANT TO FEEL LIKE THIS, LIKE I'M HELPLESS!
EVEN WHEN HE DIED. EVEN WHEN HE DIED, I WASN'T THERE...
BARBARA, THIS IS TEARING ME APART! OH GOD, I CALLED HER A DRUNK. I SAID I HATED HER...
I'M SINKING. DROWNING IN IT. HEARTACHE BIGGER THAN THE SEA AND I CAN'T FIGHT. THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO EXCEPT...
BULLY
NEVER
LIAR
SORRY
...SURRENDER...


HUNNGH...
..VICTORY..
AND SHE'S ENOUGH. AND EVERYTHING'S SAFE. JUST KNOWING THAT...
...IT'S SUCH A RELIEF.
YEAH.
SOPHIE, THIS IS BLISS. MY THOUGHTS, MY FEELINGS, THE WATER... EVERYTHING'S SO WARM AND DRIFTING AND PEACEFUL.
THIS SEA, IT'S LIKE TEARS, OR LIKE THE WOMB...
MMMM. EVERYTHING. EVERYTHING COMES OUT OF THE WATER...
MMMM. IT'S CALM NOW I FEEL GOOD. LIKE YOU SAID, YOU HAVE TO SURRENDER...
MMMMM TO LOVE SURRENDER TO LOVE...
BECAUSE IN LOVE... SURRENDER... IS...
LOVE.
ALL THE LOVE THERE'S EVER BEEN SHE'S IT.
EVERYTHING THAT'S ALIVE...
ORGANISMS STRUGGLING AND REPRODUCING IN THIS RICH GREEN SOUP...
AND THE WHOLE WORLD, EVERY SPECIES, RESULTS FROM THAT
THAT FIRST ATTRACTION


PARTICLES, ORGANISMS, PLANETS AND SUNS... IT'S ALL ABOUT ATTRACTION. IT'S HOW EVERYTHING HOLDS TOGETHER.
MMMM. THERE'S THAT VENUS SIGN AGAIN, THE PLANET SYMBOL.
AND THOSE JEWELS SET INTO IT. IT'S THAT THING. THAT KABELLAH THING...
YES. THE TREE OF LIFE. AND VENUS IS THE ONLY PLANETARY SYMBOL THAT COMPLETELY REPRISES ITS SHAPE.
THEY SAY IT'S BECAUSE THAT'S THE PRINCIPLE THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE IS FOUNDED ON:
LOVE.
MMMM
Y'KNOW, EARLIER? THAT ROUGH CURRENT, UNTIL WE STOPPED FIGHTING IT? THAT'S HOW MY EMOTIONS ALWAYS USED TO BE. ALWAYS FIGHTING. ALWAYS REACTING.
I'D GET SCARED, OR ANGRY, OR DEPRESSED. ALL REACTIONS. I HARDLY GOT TIME TO FIND OUT WHAT MY OWN REAL FEELINGS WERE...
YEAH. Y'KNOW, IT'S LIGHTER HERE, IT EVEN FEELS LIGHTER. WE MUST BE CLOSER TO THE...

...SURFACE...
>PFAHH<
WUOH...
DAMN. THAT WAS BUMPY.
SOPHIE? ARE YOU OKAY?
>THFUHH<
YEAH NOT AS OKAY AS I WAS TWO MINUTES AGO, BUT I'M GOOD. I'M JUST NOT BLISSED OUT ANY MORE
ME NEITHER.
GOD, THAT WAS A STRANGE EXPERIENCE, BEING DRAGGED AND THROWN AROUND BY MOODS AND FEELINGS...
...BUT MAYBE THAT'S JUST LIFE
YEAH.
IT MAKES YOU WONDER IF WE HAVE EMOTIONS, OR IF EMOTIONS HAVE US.
COME ON. LET'S HEAD UP THE BEACH.
SURE. SO, WHERE NEXT?
STEVE WASN'T HERE, OR IN THE LAST ZONE, THAT MERCURY SPHERE...
I GUESS WE JUST HAVE TO GO HIGHER
YEAH? WELL, WHAT'S HIGHER THAN IMAGINATION OR INTELLIGENCE OR EMOTION?
SAY, IS THIS PLACE CHANGING COLOR?
MM-HM. IT'S GETTING DARKER
AS FOR WHAT'S HIGHER...
SEE, THERE'S OUR DREAMS, INTELLECT OR FEELINGS...AND THEN THERE'S THE SELF THAT HAS DREAMS, HAS A MIND, HAS FEELINGS
THE SELF IS HIGHER
IT'S THE HIGHEST SELF. IT'S YOUR WILL. IT'S YOUR SOUL.
AND THIS HIGHWAY GOES THERE, RIGHT?
DOES IT HAVE A TAROT NAME?
ROUTE
24

YEAH.
ROUT
24
DEATH?
SOPHIE, I ALREADY DIED. I--I REALLY DON'T NEED TO GO THROUGH THIS AGAIN.
RELAX. IN TAROT, DEATH IS JUST A METAPHOR.
BEFORE PROGRESSING TO THE SOLAR SPHERE, THE HIGHEST SELF, IT'S LIKE OUR LOWER PERSONALITY... THE THING WE THINK OF AS US... HAS TO DIE.
...SYMBO
WH--
IT'S ALL OUR EARTHLY ATTACHMENTS, ALL OUR WORLDLY IDEAS AND PETTY EMOTIONS THAT ARE KILLED, SO THAT WE CAN CHANGE AND MOVE ON.
CHANGE IS LIKE DEATH. IT'S SCARY, BUT IT'S NATURAL.
A-ARE YOU SURE? I MEAN, LOOK AT THIS PLACE! IT'S ALL CACTUS PLANTS AND BEETLES AND SCORPIONS...
I GUESS THOSE ARE JUST THE MAGICAL PLANTS AND ANIMALS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PATH.
HONESTLY, BARBARA, THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT. ALL THIS MENACING IMAGERY, LIKE THE SKELETON WITH THE SCYTHE, IT'S JUST...

JEEZ...
Y'KNOW, THAT METAPHORICAL STUFF...
IT REALLY HURTS.
Y-YEAH. SORT OF GETS THE IDEA ACROSS, THOUGH, DOESN'T IT?
WE BETTER BE MOVING ON...
THERE'S A WAY TO GO BEFORE MORNING.
NEXT: GOLD

IMAGINARY LINES

Write to us at 7910 Ivanhoe Ave., Suite 438, La Jolla, CA 92037, email: promethea@wildstorm.com. All letters appreciated!

Oh, me! I've been a bit behind on PROMETHEA until just now. Never mind why, just know I've repented and will never miss another issue for as long as you folks produce them! I pored over three issues just today, so I'm finally at a place where I can write to you at the letters column and be up to date.

As for me, I've only been reading comics for a short time, but I love comic books that teach me! One day I will be giving back. Thank you, thank all of you for giving so much to PROMETHEA. I can tell, it bleeds from every page. To borrow from Barbara in issue #2, "...every moment's like stained glass."

Thank you for writing a book that I always feel is just for me. I work in a costume rental shop. Today I made the gorilla mask speak.

I am thrilled to hear of all the nominations for the Eisner awards. I'm not quite sure what an Eisner entails, but I'm certain all your nominations deserve awards. That is apparent.

History, myth, gods, goddesses, magic, tarot, beauty, art, love, language, YES. "Eye candy, brain candy, soul candy..." Who is not nourished by these things? Eat and be full!

Thank you. Again.

Sarah Ellen Powell

Thank you, Sarah, for such a lovely letter. What did the gorilla say?

As for the Eisner awards, well, we were pretty thrilled to once again be nominated for a few of them–and even more thrilled to actually win a few more! Alan picked up his second straight Best Writer award, Todd Klein received his umpteenth Best Letterer award, and Promethea #10 won the Best Single Issue award. Ah, another lovely night at the San Diego Comic Convention...

Congratulations Alan, J.H., Mick, Jeromy & Todd!

J.H. WILLIAMS III and MICK GRAY
Cover art

Jeromy Cox
Cover color

TODD KLEIN
Cover logo and Cover Design

JIM LEE
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SCOTT DUNBIER
Group Editor

I should have stopped being surprised at the obscure and, perhaps, esoteric books that Alan Moore knows. *Houseboat on the Styx?* I had wondered about Sophie's surname, but had surmised that there wasn't more to it than a sense of kinetic and explosive potential. Nah, here we had a link to the turn of the century humorist John Kendrick Bangs, on the Styx! I'm looking this minute at copies of *Houseboat on the Styx, Pursuit of the Houseboat, The Enchanted Typewriter and Raffles Holmes.* Sherlock Holmes, of course, turned up newly deceased in *Pursuit* to help chase the pirates who'd stolen the Houseboat with the suffragist female shades aboard her.

Occasionally I get the delightful delusion that Moore is writing many of these ABC series just for me (specifically LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENTLEMEN and TOP 10, for certain). It seems that PROMETHEA is part of that company too.

Thanks for a great graphic series, that is a delight for the mind as well as for the eye.

Best,

Stu Shiffman

One of the wonderful things about great stories is that occasionally, on some rare level, there will be a hidden part that reaches out and connects with people. This sort of rapport, in growing numbers, seems to exist between the ABC books and our readers. This is all nonsense since Alan is, of course, writing about MY life...

Sirs,

I was intrigued by Alan Moore's mention of A *Houseboat on the Styx*, a 19th century philosophical romance by a supposed ancestor of Sophie's. So I decided to look it up on the Internet, to see if Moore was kidding. Imagine my surprise when I discovered the entire text is available on a webpage! For those interested, you might want to mention, on the letters page or elsewhere, that it's located at http://www.fantasticfiction.co.uk/etexts/n15438.htm

Best wishes,

Alex Krislov

Shaker Heights, Ohio

Thanks for sending in the link, Alex. We had no idea the text of the story was on-line; that's a ringing endorsement for the world wide web if ever there was one–although Alan continues to steadfastly ignore

the Internet in any manner and actually harbors hope that one day it will self-destruct as a direct result of the PROMETHEA virus. Or at least get a bad headache.

Imaginary Lines,

Although I truly enjoy the mystical and philosophical topics addressed in PROMETHEA, it is the humor that stays with me the longest. Scenes like the one where Baron Munchausen tells his "by proxy" joke and the battle to control Stacia are often the main attraction for me. Alan Moore has a way of subtly adding in conversations and situations that are extremely funny and show how knowledgeable he is. In fact, I sometimes feel proud when I pick up on his humor. Please tell Alan not to neglect this aspect of his stories and remind him that some readers like comics that are smart and funny.

Sincerely,
Jackie Williams
Louisville, KY

The Baron sends his regards, he's been checking ballots in the Florida recount. The latest results? Dewey wins!

Issue 14 was another fine piece of work from the PROMETHEA crew, but I noticed one very glaring oversight. Sophie goes to the moon and there's not ONE mention of cheese? How can this be? Wallace and Gromit are probably organizing a formal protest even now!

Nik Havert
Writer, hard worker,
Renaissance man

But, Nik, you would have been expecting that.

Hi,

I wonder who the lucky couple is on page 21 chatting with none other than Mr. Moore?

Keep up the good work and please, lets see more of Jose Villarrubia's art.

Gustavo Medina
Mexico City

Those folks do bear a passing resemblance to a certain PROMETHEA penciller and his wife--must be a coincidence. And who was that roaring rarebit passing by?

Mr. Villarrubia will indeed be doing more work for us--he's just too talented to be left to his own de, er, vices.

Promethea:

I hate it when people start off letters saying how they are long time fans of comics, but this is the first letter they have ever written to one, so I won't do it, or maybe I already have. Anyway, I just had to write in and say what an amazing book Alan and Co. keep putting out. I started reading PROMETHEA with issue #12, I bought it on an impulse, or maybe there was some other force at work. After that issue, I knew I had to have them all. I quickly set about obtaining the whole run and to celebrate issue #14, sat down and read them all back to back. All I can say is WOW!

PROMETHEA has proved to be one of the greatest pieces of fiction I have ever read, beaten in the comics world only by the long dead, but soon to return SUICIDE SQUAD. Moore's writing has surpassed anything I could have ever expected, and J.H.3's art is amazing, also I followed your advice from a previous column and went out and acquired the whole run of CHASE. The text and art are both dense and rich in ways that leave all my senses screaming for Moore. Don't pardon the pun.

The pages of PROMETHEA have turned me on to theories and philosophies that I would have surely never have been exposed to. I want to read the assembled collection of Aleister Crowley just so I can understand all the clever allusions, although issue #14 gave me my first opportunity to recognize an allusion. I guess I learned something in four years of studying psychology, by proxy indeed. Some people might find the book too preachy, but they' d be wrong. As I am sure Promethea would agree, at times likes these there are no words to convey what I want to say, so I will leave it at

Thank You.
Jason Bache

Hi to all involved

Thank you all for your hard work time and imagination. PROMETHEA is in my top 5 (with no particular order). It's just time that I did you the courtesy of thanking you for making my hair stand on end, my pulse race, palms sweat, etc.

You have also made me question some things, and brought me on incredible journeys-thanks and thanks again.

"come along, further wonders wait yonder,"

Terry Howard
Dublin, Eire.

Thanks Jason & Terry. Actually, thanks everyone. We appreciate all your missives, and you make us feel like we're doing something right during those long, cold winter nights.

NEXT ISSUE:

On sale sooner than you think!